

MEDIA RELEASE

Friday, October 17th, 2003

Re: National speaker on missing and abducted children to train Kansas law enforcement and child protection professionals.

Attorney General Phill Kline and the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, in association with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC), the US Department of Justice Office of Justice and Delinquency Program (OJJDP), Wichita State University and Washburn University are sponsoring training to enhance the swift and successful investigation of missing and abducted children.

Stephen E. Steidel, Associate Director of Training at NCMEC will be conducting training in Topeka and Wichita for Kansas law enforcement and child protection professionals. Mr. Steidel is the former commander of the Suffolk County (NY) Missing Persons Bureau and has extensive investigative and management experience regarding missing children.

In addition to learning about new and additional investigative resources and developing community child protection programs, participants will review their agencies' role and procedures and how their responses can be enhanced.

The training will occur Monday, October 20, 2003 at the Wichita State University Metro Complex, 5015 E 29th Street North, in Wichita, Kansas and on Tuesday, October 21st at Henderson Hall, Room 100, on the Washburn University Campus, 1700 SW College, Topeka, Kansas. **The training is not open to the public, but Mr. Steidel will be available to meet with the media to discuss the training and the media's vital role in child abductions, at approximately 11:30 each day.**

The training is being provided at no cost to the participants or their agencies thanks to the sponsorship of NCMEC and OJJDP.

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